

# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE  
MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY  
RICHARD M. ROMLEY



December 15, 1999

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## **DEFENDANTS CHARGED WITH BLOCKBUSTER VIDEO STORE MURDER**

Maricopa County Attorney Rick Romley has authorized the filing of criminal complaints charging Juan Carlos Chavarria, d.o.b. 7/3/81, with First Degree Murder, a class 1 dangerous felony and Armed Robbery, a class 2 dangerous felony. Also charged is Jerome Gray, d.o.b. 9/20/84, with First Degree Murder, a class 1 felony, and Armed Robbery, a class 2 felony.

Both defendants are charged with murdering Rosa Romero-Felix, a customer at the Blockbuster Video Store, located 6702 W. Bethany Home Road. The murder occurred during an armed robbery at the store.

“Again, an innocent bystander has been killed during the alleged commission of a crime by teenagers. Juan Chavarria is an adult and will be held accountable as an adult. Jerome Gray, 15 years old, will be tried in adult court for his alleged participation in this horrible event,” said County Attorney Rick Romley.

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DR 99-128966 GLENDALE PD

IN THE GLENDALE JUSTICE COURT

COUNTY OF MARICOPA, STATE OF ARIZONA

STATE OF ARIZONA,	)	
	)	NO. CR99-_____
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	COMPLAINT
vs.	)	
	)	<b>COUNT 1:</b> FIRST DEGREE MURDER,
JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA,	)	A CLASS 1 DANGEROUS FELONY
	)	<b>COUNT 2:</b> ARMED ROBBERY, A
Defendant.	)	CLASS 2 DANGEROUS FELONY
_____	)	

The complainant herein personally appears and, being duly sworn, complains on information and belief against JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA, charging that in GLENDALE JUSTICE COURT Precinct, Maricopa County, Arizona:

**COUNT 1:**

JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA, on or about the 13th day of December, 1999, acting either alone or with one or more other persons, committed or attempted to commit Armed Robbery and in the course of and in furtherance of such offense, or immediate flight from such offense, JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA or another person caused the death of Rosa Maria Romero, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1904, 13-1101, 13-1105, 13-301, 13-302, 13-303, 13-304, 13-703, and 13-801.

## **STATE V. JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA**

The State of Arizona further alleges that the offense charged in this count is a dangerous felony because the offense involved the discharge, use, or threatening exhibition of a gun, a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, and\or the intentional or knowing infliction of serious physical injury upon Rosa Maria Romero, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-604(P).

### ***COUNT 2:***

JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA, on or about the 13th day of December, 1999, in the course of taking property of another from Rosa Maria Romero'S person or immediate presence and against his will, used threats or force against Rosa Maria Romero, with the intent to coerce surrender of the property or to prevent resistance to JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA`S taking or retaining the property while an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon or a simulated deadly weapon or used or threatened to use a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument or a simulated deadly weapon, to-wit: a gun, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-1904, 13-1901, 13-1902, 13-701, 13-301, 13-302, 13-303, 13-304, 13-702, and 13-801.

The State of Arizona further alleges that the offense charged in this count is a dangerous felony because the offense involved the discharge, use, or threatening exhibition of a gun, a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, and\or the intentional or knowing infliction of serious physical injury upon Rosa Maria Romero, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-604(P).

**STATE V. JUAN CARLOS CHAVARRIA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Complainant

Agency: GLENDALE PD

Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_ day of December, 1999.

\_\_\_\_\_  
MAGISTRATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE

**IN CUSTODY**

TH\OK

\_\_\_\_\_  
NOEL J. R. LEVY  
DEPUTY COUNTY ATTORNEY

RICHARD M. ROMLEY  
MARICOPA COUNTY ATTORNEY

Cary G. Hipps  
Deputy County Attorney  
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3501 W Osborn Rd Ste 1  
Phoenix, AZ 85019-4034  
Telephone: (602) 455-3877  
Attorney for Plaintiff

**QUADRANT A**

DR 9912866 GLENDALE PD

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

COUNTY OF MARICOPA, JUVENILE DIVISION

(DIRECT COMPLAINT)

STATE OF ARIZONA,	)	
	)	CR 99-_____
Plaintiff,	)	
	)	DIRECT COMPLAINT
vs.	)	
	)	<b>COUNT 1:</b> FIRST DEGREE MURDER, A
JEROME GRAY,	)	CLASS 1 FELONY,
	)	<b>COUNT 2:</b> ARMED ROBBERY, A CLASS
Defendant.	)	2 FELONY
_____	)	

The complainant herein personally appears and, being duly sworn, complains on information and belief against JEROME GRAY, charging that in Maricopa County, Arizona:

**COUNT 1:**

JEROME GRAY, on or about the 13th day of December, 1999, acting either alone or with one or more other persons, committed or attempted to commit Armed Robbery, and in the course of and in furtherance of such offense, or immediate flight from such offense, JEROME GRAY or another person caused the death of Rosa Romero-Felix, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-501, 13-904, 13-1101, 13-1105, 13-703, and 13-801.

## **STATE V. JEROME GRAY**

The State of Arizona further alleges that the offense charged in this count is a dangerous felony because the offense involved the discharge, use, or threatening exhibition of a shotgun, a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, and\or the intentional or knowing infliction of serious physical injury upon Rosa Romero-Felix, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-604(P).

### **COUNT 2:**

JEROME GRAY, on or about the 13th day of December, 1999, in the course of taking property of another from ----- person or immediate presence and against her will, used threats or force against -----, with the intent to coerce surrender of the property or to prevent resistance to JEROME GRAY'S taking or retaining the property while an accomplice was armed with a deadly weapon or a simulated deadly weapon or used or threatened to use a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument or a simulated deadly weapon, to-wit: a shotgun, in violation of A.R.S. §§ 13-501, 13-1904, 13-1901, 13-1902, 13-701, 13-702, and 13-801.

The State of Arizona further alleges that the offense charged in this count is a dangerous felony because the offense involved the discharge, use, or threatening exhibition of a shotgun, a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument, and\or the intentional or knowing

## STATE V. JEROME GRAY

infliction of serious physical injury upon Liane Jenkins, in violation of A.R.S. § 13-604(P).

Cary G. Hipps  
Deputy County Attorney

IN CUSTODY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Complainant

Agency: See Attached Affidavit,  
Exhibit 1.

Made upon oath before this Court this \_\_\_\_ day of December, 1999.

The Clerk of the Superior Court of Maricopa County, Arizona, is hereby directed to file this cause in the Superior Court pursuant to Rule 2.2(b) of the Arizona Rules of Criminal Procedure.

Judge/Commissioner of the Superior  
Court, Juvenile Division

CGH/jeb/AO